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'SHOOT AT SIGHT' ORDERS TO BRITISH TROOPS Montgomery Plan Becomes Effective In Palestine

SHORTAGE OF FOOD Acute Situation Faces China

Washington, March 2.
The Agriculture Department in the fourth and final report on the world food situation for 1946-1947 predicted that acute food shortages will be suffered in China before the first rice harvest in southern areas and before wheat and other winter crops are harvested in northern China.

The report added that food conditions in Central China are expected to remain favorable. The largest deficit in Kwangtung, Kwangsi and Hunan provinces, while additional food deficits are reported in northern Kiangsu and government-occupied areas of Hopei and Honan.

The report said the data is fragmentary for Manchuria and Communist-held areas.

It said during the past year the food production in Japan was higher than the previous year but still far short of meeting consumer requirements. Rice and sweet potato crops were good but wheat, barley and white potato crops were poor.

Foodstuffs production in South Korea declined significantly in recent years and the anticipated deficit is 731,000 short tons of rice and equivalent grains.

The report said autumn and winter harvests of rice and other grains in India are somewhat larger than the preceding year but the low level of wheat and rice stocks is still serious. It said imports will not greatly improve the situation and the stock position is not likely to be relieved until India's crop goes to the market in May.

THE PHILIPPINES

The world food report said the outlook for the Philippines is better than anticipated earlier and added, "If everything goes well 1947 should be free of any major food crisis."

It said, however, Ceylon will be forced to import two-thirds of its rice requirements whereas Burma will have 1,000,000 tons of rice for export as a result of the 4,500,000-ton rice crop. Burma is still short of cooking oil and sugar.

Siam is expected to have 412,000 tons of rice available for export but it is not certain if the full amount will be exported. The report said the food situation in Malaya continues to be serious with import requirements during the first half year estimated at 400,000 tons.

It is certain that the next few months will be critical.—United Press.

Information Sought

Any persons who witnessed a motor accident near the junction of Hennessy Road and Ewo Street, Causeway Bay, at approximately 12-45 a.m. on the morning of Saturday, March 1, resulting in two people being killed and two injured, are requested to communicate with the Manager, S. C. M. Post.

EDITORIAL

Sinister Challenge

THE gang of terrorists, self-styled the "Overseas Chinese Youth Movement Society," has struck again, following up extortion demands by exploding a bomb in the crowded Ko Shing Theatre which injured nearly 30 people, including women and children. This act, cold-blooded and brutal, places the gangsters outside the category of bluffing blackmailers; they are potential assassins, apparently willing to go to any lengths to achieve their ends. They can no longer be regarded as irresponsible elements, putting on thriller-bank acts in the hope of intimidating nervous businessmen into cashing up a few thousand dollars. The Ko Shing Theatre episode is not only an open challenge to authority, but it is sinister in its implications. If these terrorists are prepared to plant a high explosive bomb in a crowded Chinese theatre for the sake of \$5,000, placing in jeopardy the lives and safety of hundreds of innocent people, they are capable of any sort of crime. An additional alarming feature of Saturday night's affair is that the outrage was carried out despite the presence in the theatre of policemen, specially placed there to prevent any such occurrence.

The police authorities have no reason to feel happy about this outrage. Firstly, they were apparently unable to get any nearer to discovering the gang, despite apprehending two women who handed in a second demand note ten days ago; secondly the posting of police officers in the theatre could not prevent the gangsters from making good their threat. Without wishing to be gratuitous, we suggest that this call for the most thorough investigation. Either the policemen assigned to the job failed to take all reasonable measures to safeguard the theatre, or some agency was employed capable of eluding the strictest supervision. If the latter, the authorities should find their line of investigation appreciably narrowed and capable of yielding valuable information and evidence. The public is aware that a lot of patient and painstaking work has already been carried out in trying to apprehend the bomb-planting gang, but it is not satisfied that all available resources have so far been utilized in this task. The terrorists appear to be well organized and skillfully led, but it is inconceivable that they can successfully cover all their tracks against the combined resources of the police force. The Ko Shing Theatre outrage is not a challenge directed at one branch of the police authorities, but at everybody in Hongkong who represents law and order.



GENERAL CUNNINGHAM

CURFEW LIFT FOR FOOD PURCHASING

Jerusalem, Mar. 2.
The curfew in the martial law area of Mea Shearim will be lifted three hours daily from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. starting tomorrow to enable food to be purchased, it was announced to-night.

However, persons in the area must make their purchases within the area.

The announcement did not mention Tel-Aviv.—United Press.

TEL-AVIV SCENES

By Eliav Simon

Tel-Aviv, Mar. 2.
I travelled for 15 minutes through the streets of Tel-Aviv to-night and found them entirely deserted except for military traffic and some barbed wire.

The curfew had been enforced. Many shutters were closed and the balconies, of which every house in Tel-Aviv has one or two, were deserted.

I visited several Jews in Tel-Aviv and they told me they were not going out because "someone may go easy on the trigger."

The people seemed to realize that the troops were in no mood to take kindly to curfew-breakers after yesterday's extremist activities.

Isaac Kuperman, who has been with the Palestine Government for the past 25 years, told me that as he drove from Jaffa to Tel-Aviv today he was fired upon. An officer later apologized to him, explaining that every fast-moving vehicle except military cars were bound to encounter difficulties and risks.

I also saw several acquaintances in Tel-Aviv and all wondered what would come next.—United Press.

British troops with orders to "shoot at sight" curfew breakers were to-night patrolling Tel-Aviv, the world's largest All-Jewish city, as the Army launched a "counter-terrorism" offensive and statutory martial law was clamped down on five Jewish areas of Palestine.

Sixty Jews were detained for further interrogation, following police and military searches of Rehavia, Jewish residential district of Jerusalem to-day, it was officially announced.

A total of 300 persons were "screened" during the operation, the statement added.

Some 280,000 persons—roughly two-fifths of Palestine's estimated 650,000 Jews—have been cut off "from normal facilities of civil government" by to-day's Palestine Government announcement made within 24 hours of the opening of the new terrorist war, which yesterday cost the lives of 19 persons and injured 26 others.

The Jewish Agency Executive was meeting to-night to discuss the situation following the imposition of statutory martial law.

The meeting was taking place in the absence of the Executive's chairman, Dr. David Ben-Gurion, who is ill in hospital.

Six thousand troops of the British First Division, with orders to root out terrorism, were to-night stationed in Tel-Aviv. Yesterday's outrages throughout Palestine began with the blowing up of the Goldsmith British Officers' Club in the Rehavia quarter of Jerusalem, killing 13 and injuring 10.

Troops were enforcing complete isolation of the area, which has a

population of about 200,000.

To-day's counter-offensive, known as "Operation Hippo" (Field Marshal Lord Montgomery's plan) began at 8 a.m. (local time), with statutory martial law on the densely populated Jewish district of Mea Shearim in Jerusalem. This was known as "Hippo Minimum."

Just over five hours later, operation "Hippo Maximum" began in Tel-Aviv, with its satellite townships of Petah Tikvah, oldest Jewish colony, and Ramat Gan, an industrial town about midway between Tel-Aviv and Petah and Tikvah.

Also placed under martial law was the village of Bnei Brak, near Ramat Gan.

Tel-Aviv's curfew in the strictest ever imposed in Palestine. All telephone and cable facilities have been suspended, isolating the coastal city from the rest of Palestine.

Factories—the bulk of Palestine's light industries are concentrated in Tel-Aviv—are idle. Schools are closed, but may be reopened later.

The curfew now confining the city's inhabitants to their homes may be lifted within the next 24 hours, Major-General R. N. Gale, Commander of the British First Division, said to-day—but no one will be allowed outside the cordoned town round the city by British troops and no one will be allowed to enter Tel-Aviv from outside.

ISOLATION AS CORRECTIVE

Newspapers will be allowed to appear once the editorial and printing staffs have been "screened."

There are also no train services for the use of the public in Tel-Aviv.

"Isolation of this area will continue until terrorism is eradicated," General Gale said to-day.

To impose statutory martial law, General Sir Alan Cunningham, Palestine High Commissioner, invoked the regulations made under the Palestine (Defence) Order-in-Council of 1937.

An official communique said that severe measures were now necessary as a result of the refusal of the Jewish community to co-operate with the British authorities against terrorism.

The communique added that since a warning was given to the Jewish authorities a month ago 46 outrages, in which 20 persons were killed and 31 were injured, have occurred.

Referring to yesterday's outrages the communique said that the cars used in the attacks in Jerusalem and Haifa were stolen from Tel-Aviv and "dissident groups" were known to operate from Tel-Aviv.

The curfew clamped down on the central (Jewish) area of Jerusalem last night was lifted at 1 p.m. to-day, but the curfew accompanying statutory martial law imposed on the Mea Shearim quarter this morning remained in force.

Seven to ten thousand Jews, as well as Yemenites and Bukharians,

in this area are now facing conditions of rigid austerity. The area has only one post office and no banks, but approximately 200 synagogues.

Jerusalem's biggest bakery—which supplies most of the Jews in the Holy City with bread—is also in the proscribed area.

"We are here to eradicate terrorism," said General Gale. "This is not full martial law, but a drastic step to put down illegal activities against the state." The commander declared that his troops were not being used for punitive purposes and they had no quarrel with the general community. "The problem is to get hold of terrorists with the minimum inconvenience to the populace," he said. "These illegal activities must be paralysed no matter how long it takes."—Reuter.

Jewish Leaders Condemn Irgun And Stern Gang Outrages

Jerusalem, Mar. 2.
The Jewish Agency and Jewish National Council, in a joint statement to-night, condemned yesterday's Irgun and Stern Gang outrages as "murderous and senseless" and express grief for the bereaved British, Arab and Jewish families.

Replying to the Palestine Government's statement that more severe measures were necessary because of their lack of co-operation, the two groups said they had not received help from the Government.

Their statement said: "The Palestine Government is now renegeing against the Jewish community as a whole, although the crisis was caused by a few desperate gunmen. The Government is seeking through the imposition of martial law, which is unlikely to deter terrorists, to punish the entire community who are the scapegoats."

Major-General R. M. Gale told a press conference at Tel Letwinisky camp on the outskirts of Tel-Aviv, "This is not yet full-dress martial law."

He said the civil authorities would continue to function and the police would maintain their normal duties, "but we will use full-dress martial law if necessary."

He pointed out that the decree left decisions on martial law restrictions to the Army. He added that 6,000 troops in the Tel-Aviv area were expected to find the guilty underground members within 24 hours "if all goes well."

Gen Gale said, if the operation carried on with the co-operation of the civil authorities was successful, the curfew may be lifted gradually. The blond-mustached general said, "I have nothing against the Jewish population, but I fear certain hardships to the population."

He promised to give the press full facilities, but did not indicate when telephone communications between Tel-Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem would be restored.

Gen Gale said the entire food supply project would be handled by the Army and civil authorities. Asked if the Army intended to carry out searches, he replied, "No, definitely not. We found that four days of searches after the bombing of King David Hotel did not yield any concrete results, wherefore we are now following a different plan."

He declined to elaborate.

Gen Gale said he had asked Mayor Israel Rokah to co-operate with the Army. He said that apart from the Mayor, the only other people allowed to move freely were correspondents of bona fide agencies and the local press.—United Press.

Cabinet Changes Forecast

London, Mar. 3.
Big British cabinet changes within six months were forecast in the Sunday Pictorial. The Pictorial political correspondent, referring to the ill-health of Mr Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary, and Mr Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the Council, said that "a change of role for both or either of these important ministers of Attlee's cabinet will necessitate big changes."

The paper suggested that Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, Mr Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health, and Mr John Strachey, the Food Minister, were likely to increase in importance in a cabinet reshuffle.—Associated Press.

Child Killed, Report

Jerusalem, March 2.
A four-year-old Jewish child died of bullet wound in the head received when a British soldier fired on her after she appeared on the balcony of a house in the Mea Shearim quarter of Jerusalem to-day, official Jewish sources stated to-night. Her six-year-old sister is reported to have been slightly wounded.

British military headquarters to-night said: "Warning shots were fired during the day in the Mea Shearim quarter. There were no casualties."—Reuter.

TRUCK BLOWN UP

Jerusalem, Mar. 2.
A military truck was blown up near Hadera, half-way between Haifa and Tel-Aviv to-night but there were no casualties.

Official sources said warning shots were fired in martial law areas to-day.—United Press.

US Officers Held By Communists

Nanking, Mar. 3.
The United States Embassy has asked Wang Ping-nan to furnish a radiogram to Yenan requesting the immediate release of two United States army officers who were captured by the Communists.

Planes returning the Communists to Yenan from Nanking carried with them a note making the demand.

The capture of the two officers, Major Robert Riggs and Captain John W. Collins confirmed newspaper reports that the Communists had hampered their way to the very outskirts of Changchun, which changed hands during the past year.

INCIDENT DESCRIBED

Official reports reaching the Embassy said the two officers accompanied by a chauffeur and a interpreter were travelling along a highway north of Changchun when they sighted a sentry, who suddenly fired a shot which brought a large group of Communists who surrounded the jeep. When Riggs and Collins descended from the jeep to talk with the soldiers the chauffeur suddenly whirled the jeep and drove away with the interpreter, the reports said.

These men returned to the city and reported to the Consul they last saw Riggs and Collins standing beside the jeep with hands above their heads. A possibility exists the Communist band mistook the American officers for Chinese in the semi-darkness of the Manchurian dawn. The officers were in uniform and riding in a jeep marked as American vehicles, but it is known the Government First Army is using a number of jeeps and other American equipment in the Changchun region.—Associated Press.

Hitler's Platinum Treasure Found

Berlin, Mar. 2.
Hitler's platinum treasure, worth several thousand pounds, has been recovered by Allied officials in the steel chambers of a German bank, according to the British News Service.

The platinum, which was a gift of a wealthy South African whose name is not disclosed, is the only property of Hitler of any considerable value so far discovered.—Reuter.

PLANES TO THE RESCUE

Buenos Aires, Mar. 2.
Rescue planes of four nations are striving to aid the stricken zone of Trinidad, Northern Bolivia where floods have driven 3,000 people from their homes, besides marooning 12,000 inhabitants of other areas, reports reaching here said to-day.

Flyers, who answered the SOS from the Bolivian Government to "all America" saying the town of Trinidad was "disappearing," found it impossible to land near the city where alligators were swimming in the inundated streets.

The airmen, who included military pilots from Argentina, Peru and Chile, in addition to Bolivian crews, were flying over the neighbouring areas in an attempt to help the hard-pressed population.

Food supplies have been cut off for more than three days by the floods, caused by the overflowing of the River Mamore.

The latest reports were that the torrential rain continued and the river was still rising.

"Keep Your Troops In Greece"

Truman Request To Britain

Washington, Mar. 2.
President Truman has urged Britain to retain her troops in Greece to avert a civil war there, with the assurance that the American administration is considering assuming much of the financial burden and supplying military assistance other than the despatch of American troops.

This according to the Sunday Times correspondent in the effect of the note which the Under-Secretary of State has handed to the British Ambassador. The note was in reply to the one handed by the British Ambassador, Lord Ivershaye, to General Marshall, Secretary of State, in which it was explained that Britain could not continue to accept financial responsibility for Greece after March 31.

President Truman is expected in a "major address" on Thursday to lay the facts before the nation and will ask for a credit or loan of £62,500,000 for Greece, spread over the next three years.

It will be supported by General Marshall. What answer the American public will make nobody can say. It is certainly, however, that the American administration feels that the desperate economic plight of Britain and its suggested withdrawal from Greece makes the major problem facing the Moscow conference not so much the German (Continued on Page 4)

STOP PRESS

Hutton III

Latest Test Match Score

Len Hutton, who has scored 122 not out, was unable to continue his innings for England when the fifth Test match was resumed at Sydney this morning. Hutton has been in hospital for two days suffering from tonsillitis.

The wicket was soft and likely to be tricky when Evans and Patil Smith continued the innings from the Friday night score of 237 for 6. After Smith had scored two, and the total had been raised to 244, he was clean bowled by Lindwall, who, at that stage had taken 8 for 51. Evans was 21 not out.—United Press.

Later.
281 for 7. Evans, 25 not out, Bedser 3 not out. A record crowd is present.—United Press.

Later.
268 for 8. Evans, 6. Lindwall has taken 7 for 61.—United Press.

LUNCH SCORE

England all out 280. Bedser not out 10, Wright, 6. Tallon, 6. Miller 7. (Hutton did not bat to-day).

Australia, 10 for 0. Barnes 7, Morris 6.—Reuter.

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ALL THIS happened
in the BIG FREEZEMany unusual things have been reported
during the severe winter in the British
Isles. Here are some out-of-the-way facts
gleaned from early February papers.A MAIDSTONE man found
his false teeth frozen in
a cup of ice. Having no
fire, he took the cup to work,
where he procured warmth and
teeth.The cast of "Love Is My Reason"
comedy at Torquay Pavilion, offered
to play to an audience of seven
one night.
The audience went home.Twenty thousand eggs should have
been put into the incubator at Wood-
hall Spa, Lines, for hatching in three
weeks, but the cold made the eggs
infertile.Bread had to be dumped on the
streets of Wix, near Clacton, and
villagers dug out to it.

Boys to rescue

A SUPPLIES expedition set out
from a boarding school at
Otterden, Kent, which had been
isolated for five days. Senior
boys built sledges and managed
to reach the village store two
miles away.Sixty dozen bottles of frozen beer
burst at Weymouth. No meat or
milk were available at Southfleet,
near Gravesend, for days, but when
the first lorry got through it made
for the village pub and replenished
beer supplies.Radiators burst and flooded Bir-
mingham cathedral, services being
cancelled.Two stallholders instead of the
usual 50 turned out at Aylesbury
market. One stall opened for oranges
at Melton Mowbray.Primroses and snowdrops bloomed
in West Wales.Frozen railway carriage doors were
hammered and levered at Banbury
to let passengers out.Coldest place on two nights, More-
ton-in-the-Marsh. A stallholder told
so many surplus Navy "duffle" coats
at 5s. that the streets appeared to be
full of monks.

Clear your 'fronts'

UNDER local by-laws, house-
holders at Worthing must
clear the snow from the fronts
of their houses, and the council
sent round a loud-speaker van
just to remind them.An officer from Portland barracks
did the troops' shopping by air—
there being no bus. A man at Grave-
send asked nine miles to his work.
Children were taught skilting at Gil-
lingham by a German prisoner.Nearly 50 families left their pre-
fabricated houses in Torquay, there
being no water and little electricity.
Princeton, beleaguered for three
days, was "relieved" when a G.W.R.
snow plough reached it in a blizzard
after a 13-hour battle.With it came supplies of meat,
potatoes, bread, groceries, and three
days' newspapers.Said Mr L. A. S. Cullum, Yelver-
ton stationmaster, "We were deter-
mined to get through, and we have."It is hoped that ordinary trains
will run so that business men
can reach Plymouth.

32-hr. puddings

PUDDINGS for seven schools
at Maidenhead took 32
hours to cook owing to weak gas
pressure. Children got biscuits
and custard.Maidenhead's fuel office was so
cold that the overseer took a taxi
and borrowed a friend's oil stove.This Newshawk Sighs
For Hongkong

By ROBERT CLURMAN

United Press Staff Correspondent
Hongkong is the only city in the Far East where a man,
meaning an unaccustomed civilian, can get light on Scotch
and still have taxi fare home.Singapore is the only city
where he is likely to find the
taxi. Batavia is the only one
where he might find the home.In Shanghai, with or without
benefit of Scotch, he'll find California
oranges selling for less than oranges
raised ten miles away.In Batavia a little over a month
ago, food prices in Dutch guilders
were ten times prices in Republic-
an guilders, but the "official" rate
was one for one. The next week you
couldn't buy anything with either
currency, and the Chinese were
busily issuing counterfeit Republic-
an notes without even attempting
to imitate the genuine bills because
nobody knew what the genuine bills
looked like anyway.Eighteen months after the Japa-
nese surrender, there isn't a major
city in the Far East vaguely ap-
proaching normalcy.

NOT TOO BAD

In Hongkong probably the best of
the lot—prices are five times pre-
war levels. But Hongkong is a com-
parative oasis. You can buy a steak
dinner in Hongkong for the equiv-
alent of \$2 U.S. and for \$3.50 per
head you can dine at a lush grill
where a pale pianist tinkles Chopin
from an upholstered dais. Ameri-
can cigarettes are available on any
street corner for 25 cents U.S. and
very little else.A slug of Scotch or bottle of good
Dutch beer is 50 and 30 cents
respectively.One is apt to think longingly of
Hongkong as he picks himself off the
floor after glancing at his first
Shanghai dinner check. An average
meal for one may cost \$20 U.S.Shanghai shops are filled with
goods but prices look like the U.S.
war budget, and even after 20
minutes spent converting them into
American dollars, they are still stag-
gering.

BUY A CAMEL

One correspondent who had his car
shipped from San Francisco to
Shanghai said it cost him more to
have it transported from the pier on
the far side of the Whampoa River
into Shanghai than it did to bring
it all the way from San Francisco
to the pier.To make a bad situation impos-
sible, the largest bills available in
China are in denominations of \$2,000.
Thus, if you are so rash as to get out
on a shopping tour, a large mule or
a small camel should be standard
equipment for carrying the folding
money.In Batavia, conversely, everything
is cheap, but "everything" includes
all known varieties of papayas,
bananas, mangoes, Dutch gin—and
very little else.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

When Suet had left Mr
Dilvey, the Ministry of
Bubbleblowing suddenly came to
life.Mr Dilvey rang up the
lady with the cold, Miss Twangle
and told her to put the whole
matter of the foghorn containers
before Mr Eaglett of the Export
Board.Miss Twangle still had her cold,
and as Mr Eaglett is slightly deaf, all
he gathered was that, according to
sarah-ve-hashoo-oo-oo, Mr Dilvey the
Foghorn (Coddalderah-ve-morah)
Bill—repeat please—sigh-hord Bill
—a special export licence would be
req-sh-shoo-o-quired. Mr Eaglett
then wrote to Suet to say that the
export of foghorns was a matter
for the Bottleneck Board, and would
Mr Suet kindly say whether the
birds were stuffed or in their natural
state, whether he had a licence for
shooting them, and whether they
were more than 5ins in diameter.By the same post Suet received
this letter from the Department
of Export Registration:Dear Sir,
We understand that you wish to
apply for a licence to manufacture
hornbills for export. We presume
that this refers to some sort of
children's toy, and we therefore beg
to inform you that the regulations
require that these shall be unap-
unvarnished not more than 5ins in
diameter containing no malt glucose,
silicon, rubber, steel, wood, glass,
concrete, feathers, string, or marine
glue. If you will give us this as-
surance, you can write to the Re-
gional Commissioner of Toy Fabrics,
who will send you the necessary
forms for application for licence,
permit and certificate.

Yours faithfully,

Edgar M. Vagwire.

FIREMEN'S CLOTHES FROZE
WHILE FIGHTING A FIRE AT
WYE (KENT) POST OFFICE.Miniature icebergs appeared in the
Medway, frozen 3ins deep for the
first time in 20 years. The River
Severn and Avon froze; ice on the
Avon at Evesham being 2ins thick.Frozen canals stopped coal deli-
veries to the General Electric Co.'s
work at Wotton, Birmingham. Ten
thousand men were sent home.A thousand civil servants at Car-
diff—Ministers of National Insurance,
Inland Revenue and Land—were too
cold to work and had a half-day
off.A heat wave inside four War
Memorial houses at Lydney, Glos., led
to an investigation when the walls
of two houses began to glow. The
fire brigades found that asbes had
been used in the construction of
concrete blocks and were smouldering.
Temperature is now down to
normal.A boy arrived at a Seaford, Kent,
school at 10.45 a.m. carrying a shovel,
having dug his way from home three
miles away.Percy Lambert, 60, postman, left
his bicycle at home and walked 20
miles to deliver letters at Thixendale,
York.An average of one person an hour
was treated at Rochester Hospital
for fractured limbs.As a protection a number of Zoo
houses were closed, including that of
Dickie, three-ton elephant.

Eel a la freeze

WATCH on Dungeness bench
was kept for a reasonable
delicacy, frozen conger eels. The
congers came up for air and are
killed by the frost.Housewives leaving their taps on
to avoid frozen pipes nearly emptied
the reservoir at Wade-bridge North
Cornwall.Only man to get into one snow-
bound village near Folkestone was
the insurance man, both
the grocer and baker had failed.Lynton and Lynmouth, twin town-
ships near Ilfracombe, were cut off
four days. Officials were ready to
slaughter local cattle stocks for food.Sluice gates were being watched in
East Anglia, where floods will be
heavy when the thaw sets in.Bedford, with 30 degrees of frost
one night, had a lower temperature
than in the cold spells of 1891 and
1894, when the Great Ouse froze and
there was skating for three weeks.NO CASES OF ABSENTEEISM
OR ILLNESS WERE RECORDED
AMONG LAND ARMY GIRLS IN
BEDFORDSHIRE.Attendance being reduced at Hun-
tingdon Grammar School and the
usual amount of milk being delivered,
some boys drank a dozen bottles.Aubrey Hammond, Southampton
jeweller, sat down to have a tooth
filled when the fuel cut stopped the
drill.IN THE ORKNEYS AND SHET-
LANDS IT WAS MILD, WITH
SPILLS OF ALMOST SPRING
SUNSHINE.Bodmin hotel landlords had to
thaw the bottles before they could
sell beer.

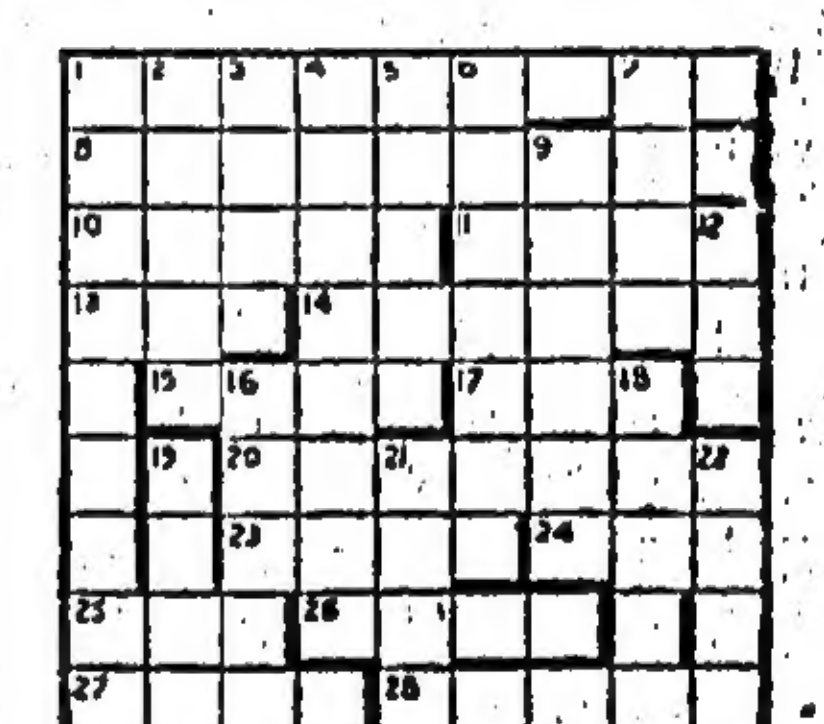
DUMB BELLS

REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE
MANILA WAS A WONDERFUL
PLACE, EVER
BEEN THERE?
NO, BUT
I'VE EATEN
LOTS OF
THEIR
ICE CREAMAccording To
Culbertson

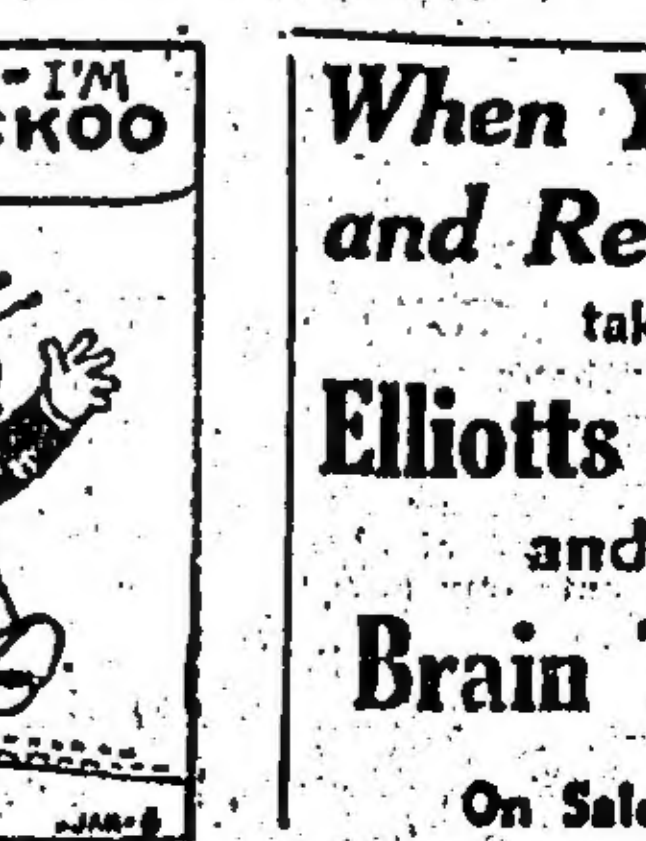
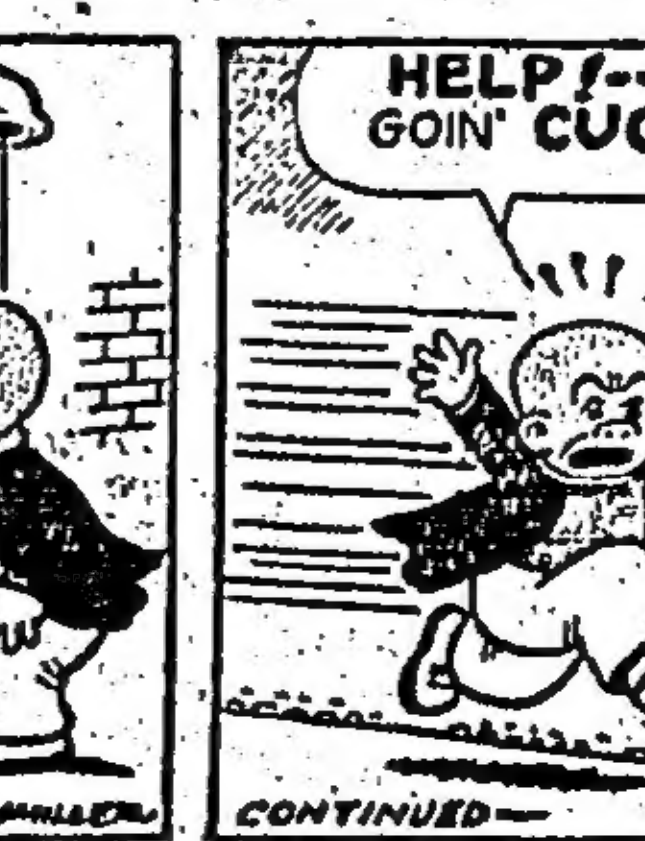
(Copyright, 1947, by Ely Culbertson)

The "sacrifice bid" in today's deal
led to an excellent result.
South, dealer
Neither side vulnerableNORTH
♦ 10 8 4 3
♦ 10 0 0 5 2
♦ 0 4 3
♦ 8
WEST
♦ 9 7 0 2
♦ 9 7 5
♦ 10 0
♦ 10 0
EAST
♦ A J
♦ K 8 5
♦ A 10
♦ A K Q 7 3
SOUTH
♦ K 5
♦ A Q J 7
♦ K 8 3
♦ 5 4 3The bidding:
South 1 heart 1 spade 2 hearts 3 hearts 4 hearts
West 1 spade 2 spades 3 spades 4 spades
North 1 heart 2 hearts 3 hearts 4 hearts
East 1 heart 2 hearts 3 hearts 4 heartsIt required considerable vision
for North to bid four hearts, even
as a "save," on his miserable hand.
Moreover, there was the question of
whether East could make his three
no trump, with probably only one
stopper in the heart suit. However,
North had the shrewd suspicion that
East held a long and solid club suit,
and since South had not been able
to double three no trump, the de-
fensive possibilities seemed very
hard. (It should be observed that
North was right—three no trump
would have been easy against any
defence.)At four hearts doubled West
elected to open his fourth-highest
spade. East won and, determined
to break up the clearly impending
cross-ruff, returned a trump.
Dummy's ten won and a diamond
was led toward the closed hand.
East put up the ace (he might well
have waited) and led another
trump. Winning with the jack,
South then led a club. East over-
took his partner's ten to lead still a
third trump, which South of course
won.Before ruffing a club in dummy
declarer made a vital and far-
seeing play—he cashed the spade
king. Then he ruffed a club, ruffed
a spade with his own last trump,
and ruffed his remaining club. At
this point West was squeezed!
South's hand was being reduced to
the king-queen-small of diamonds.
Before playing to the last club lead,
West had three diamonds to the jack
and the high spade. What could he
do? Not the spade, because
when dummy ruffed the club, the
spade ten would be good. So West
had to throw off a diamond, and
declarer won the last three, fulfilling
tricks with his three good diamonds.

CROSSWORD

Across
1. Lora's mine (anag.), (9)
10. Extending to the whole, (9)
11. Christianized, (8)
12. Put this on a steamer and you're
an armed attendant in Turkey
(10)
13. Put a little hen before it, and
you've got a compass, (9)
14. Lacerate, (6)
15. Won't be rural surely, (4)
16. What would Ophio be without
(8)
17. Shows what a little girl signified,
(7)
18. Stick with the imp first, (3)
19. Stick with the imp first, (3)
20. Background to the soprano, (4)
21. Can you get a true note from it?
(4)
22. Name, (10)
Down
1. Pertaining to a city or corpora-
tion, (9)
2. Perform, (5)
3. Mince, (4)
4. Is this the time of day, (6)
5. Manage men? (8)
6. Defence, (6)
7. Obviously doesn't irritate every-
one, (7)
8. Distributed freely by a volcano
at work, (4)
9. Gesta, but in a different way,
(10)
10. Taken from a hot terrace, (6)
11. The cause of many a tear, (6)
12. At the proper time, (4)
13. Check, (4)
14. X-ray may see with them, (4)

NANCY Is Nancy Twin?

When You Feel Tired
and Restlesstake
Elliott's Nerve
and
Brain Tonic

On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Claire Trevor for Lois Leeds.

Lois Leeds tells you the tricks which make it possible to use her ideas.

"DEAR LOIS LEEDS"

"Dear Lois Leeds—Do you think that a soft, fluffy hairdo is smart now?—LILA."

Yes, and I show you a picture (above) of Claire Trevor, who models just such a hairdo. Claire is now appearing in RKO-Radio's picture, "Deadline Than 'The Male'."

"Dear Lois Leeds—My hair is normal, except for the ends, which are always dry and ugly. What do you suggest?—A. H."

Put a small amount of ointment on your fingertips, then rub the ends of your hair with the ointment. Massaging the scalp will aid in stimulating circulation and in making the hair and the scalp healthier.

"Dear Lois Leeds—I am a real redhead, with white skin and freckles. Would you have a forest green or a dark brown suit for Spring?—NAN K."

I think that the Green would be perfect! Accent it with Brown accessories, such as bag, gloves and shoes. Copper-Red lipstick and rouge are certainly indicated here.

Minute Makeups by GABRIELLE



An ally scalp may be your curse—but there is no cure without a cure! Hollywood stars swear by the old-fashioned salt cure. Rub common salt on the scalp, then tie up your hair in a bandeau. Next morning brush like mad! Then shampoo. Result—a shiny head of hair.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"We must be nice to your father—he's predicting a depression, and if it doesn't happen, he'll be in the dumps!"

Russia Streamlining Its Government

Russia has begun to slash its administrative spending and streamline its government. The objective is two-fold: to reduce expenditure and, by combing out unnecessary personnel, swell the number of workers available for industry, commerce and agriculture.

This intention, and its scope, was first outlined during a recent meeting of the Supreme Soviet by the Minister of Finance, Arseni Zverev, and echoed during the three-day session by other ministers and deputies.

"The ministries and administrative departments must economise most strictly in spending money on the administrative apparatus," Zverev said. "However, it still can be seen that non-productive expenses are made, especially for the upkeep of a swollen network of supply and selling offices, of various factory representations, etc."

"Serious attention must be given to the abolition of unnecessary institutions and organisations, to the correction of the structure and staffs, and to maximum economy in administrative expenses."

Within two weeks of Zverev's announcement, the dismissal of I. M. Slatin, Vice-Minister of Technical Cultures for the entire USSR, pointed to the sincerity of the intentions.

Seriousness Emphasised

The Ministry of State Control's investigators found that Slatin, instead of reducing his department's expenditure, had hired 46 more persons and, to prevent liquidation of unutilised posts, had promoted 10 persons from low-paid to high-paid posts.

The seriousness of this was emphasised by Pravda's reference to it as "deceit of the state."

Pravda editorialised that the government's economy plans were meeting with "stubborn and bureaucratic resistance" on the part of some department heads who were "helping on more sectors, departments, administrations and surrounding themselves with a mass of assistants, secretaries, etc."

"The swelling of the administrative apparatus complicates the work of the apparatus itself and makes it clumsy and expensive," said Pravda.

Bad Examples

It had pointed out earlier that "to increase the personnel of industry and the number of workers who are directly producing things of material value, it is necessary to try to decrease the personnel of service. In this is one of the big reserves for multiplying socialist work."

The newspaper cited as particularly bad examples the Commissariat of Post and Telegraph's retention for more than a year after the war of a strictly wartime department which ate up 2,500,000 roubles in unnecessary expenses, and the Moscow building trusts, which did not reduce their staff of 1,000 persons, although their allotted work was cut by half.—United Press.

BABS HUTTON'S MARRIAGE REPORTED OFF

Princess Catherine Trubetskoi told a French news agency correspondent in Nice that her son, 34-year-old actor Prince Eric Trubetskoi, had no intention of marrying Barbara Hutton, 28,000,000 Woolworth heiress and reputed to be the richest woman in the world, states Reuter. The Prince and heiress have both been spending the winter holiday at St. Moritz, Switzerland, and banns of the marriage were published at the beginning of February. It was reported that the wedding had been postponed pending the arrival from Paris of Barbara's certificate of divorce from her third husband, the film star Cary Grant. She is 35 and has been married three times.

Seeks To Rouse Women

Lady Astor has retired from Parliament, but still as belligerent as ever, she sought to rally Britain's women to save the country from disaster. Speaking at a meeting of the Ladies' Golf Union, Lady Astor said: "If the women of Great Britain don't stand firm and keep the old country from rocking, then God help it." "Not a word against the men—they have ruled the world for 2,000 years. Women have only had a hand in it for 20 to 30 years." "By the looks of some of our faces, we won't be here to see the end of it—I had to put on my 'glad rags' to-day to look young and beautiful."—United Press.

Warning Against Osaka Dialect

The Tokyo metropolitan police recently issued this warning: "Beware of anyone speaking with the Osaka dialect. One hundred men and women pickpockets have just moved from Osaka because their faces became too well-known. Don't let fine clothes fool you. Beware of the Osaka dialect."—Associated Press.

New Mountains Formed East Of Caspian Sea

New mountains are being formed on one of the most restless and remote parts of the world's surface.

Mountains are wrinkles on the face of the world. Unlike the wrinkles on a human face, they are a sign of youth, not age. Water and wind gradually wash them away and so, generally speaking, the smoothest land is also the oldest.

The highest part of the world is the monster plateau of Tibet averaging more than 10,000 feet above sea level, studded with peaks so high that many have never been climbed, and so remote they often are unnamed.

On one end, the great Himalayan highlands curve south to form the mountain barrier between India and China. To the west they slope off into an inextinguishable tangle of ranges in Northwest India, Afghanistan, Turkestan and Sinkiang.

Himalayas Still Growing

It is a youthful area, geologically speaking, and the Himalayas, with all their branches and promonts, are still growing, folding, making more mountains. But mountain making, a geological process, is a process in which results are shown in millions of years. It occurs so slowly that changes in terrain due to earth-folding have never been recorded in history and the only manifestation which makes headlines are growing pains—earthquakes.

Now a Russian report from the desert of Badkhan-dah, in Kazakhstan, a huge territory east of the Caspian Sea, says that for the first time actual folding of rock into mountains was noted in a comparatively short time, since 1900.

Natural Rock Dam

A new range of hills has risen across the desert, the Soviet report says. It is a process in which results are shown in millions of years. It occurs so slowly that changes in terrain due to earth-folding have never been recorded in history and the only manifestation which makes headlines are growing pains—earthquakes.

In three places, the report said, the hills have cut across the long Chirchik river, flowing west out of the great Pamir lake called Issyk-kul. A natural rock dam has been formed.

Russian engineers plan two artificial dams, one 402 feet and one 350 feet long, to connect with the natural dam. Together the system will form a reservoir 15 miles long, eight miles wide, and will supply water for irrigating 124,000 acres of desert.—United Press.

Burma Yen Debt Muddle

The Government of Burma is facing pressing demands for some formula under which debts contracted during the Japanese occupation may be settled fairly.

The Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League pointed out in a petition to the Government that at the time of Japan's fall 100 Japanese rupees had the value of one British rupee. The British promptly demonetised Japanese currency when they re-occupied Burma.

The AFPL contends the courts have no precedents to guide them in the settlement of disputed financial transactions involving the Japanese rupee, and that it would be unfair to require settlement of the debt of 100 Japanese rupees by the PAYE of 100 British rupees.

The league also has asked the government to declare that debts unpaid since the fall of Japan because of this mixup are free of interest for the period since war's end.

"During Japanese occupation the Japanese rupee alone was legal tender."

A statement of policy is expected from the government soon.

BCOF'S ONE YEAR IN JAPAN

The British Commonwealth Occupation Forces celebrated the first anniversary of their establishment of their headquarters at Kure, Japan, on February 20.

Lieut-Gen John Northcott was appointed the first Commander of the British Occupation Forces. To-day Northcott is Governor of New South Wales, Australia.

A week prior to the appointment, the first British, Indian, Australian and New Zealand troops landed in Japan.

CHINESE PLAYS IN NEW YORK

"An Evening in Cathay," a Chinese play presented by the Chinese Cultural Theatre group from Shanghai on a tour of the United States, is playing to capacity houses in New York, where, according to the New York World-Telegram, "members of China's aristocracy meet New York's '400'."

The production, which is under the auspices of the American Bureau for Medical Aid and the United Council for Civilian Relief, is sponsored by the China Society of America.

Brooks Atkinson, writing in the New York "Times," has this to say about the production:

To raise money in America for medical aid to stricken China, a group of young Chinese from Shanghai came to this country last September with a portfolio of dances, songs, instrumental music and scenes from classical plays.

"Most of them are talented amateurs; their performing lacks the stately and imposing perfection of the best professional work. But the art they are attempting is one of the supreme arts of the world."

"Recently they have concluded a highly prosperous engagement of five days in New York and are thinking of coming back again. 'The sums of money they are sending home, however, hardly measure the esteem they are winning in the hearts of thousands of Americans. For an art that is thoroughly native, as the Chinese theatre art is, expresses the character of a people more directly and vividly than does statistics of trade or information about national affairs.'"

Theatre Bears Go On Strike

Obviously ignorant of the age-old theatrical custom that "the show must go on," three bears, engaged to do a trick cycling act at the Grand Theatre in Bolton, Lancashire, went on strike during a recent performance, and dragged their trainer and his assistant across the stage.

When the time came for the act the bears climbed up to the footlights, exchanged dubious glances with the orchestra, half-heartedly did two tricks, and then went into a conference.

Their trainer tugged at their short chains, but the only reaction of the bears was to drag him around the stage.

The act was abandoned, and the police have banned further appearances, fearing that the bears might get loose among the audience and cause a panic. According to their trainer, the animals were disturbed by the footlights and the orchestra.

OLYMPIC SOCCER PROGRAMME

The long summer evenings of the first week of the 1948 Olympics will be used for the soccer preliminaries, with the semi-finals to be played in the Olympic Stadium on August 11, 12 and 13.

Eliminating rounds starting from July 30 will be played on London's many football grounds.

Italy won the championship at the 1934 Olympics.—Associated Press.

STRANGE CARGO FOR RAF

In the course of a training flight, a Halifax of RAF Transport Command has flown 2,000 pounds of second-hand clothing and blankets to the people of Hamburg in Germany. The clothing was collected from residents of Sheffield and district by the Bishop of Sheffield, the Rt Rev Leslie Hunter, who had asked the RAF Station at Dismforth, Yorks, to assist him in delivering it quickly to the people of Hamburg.

Rupert and Ninky—49

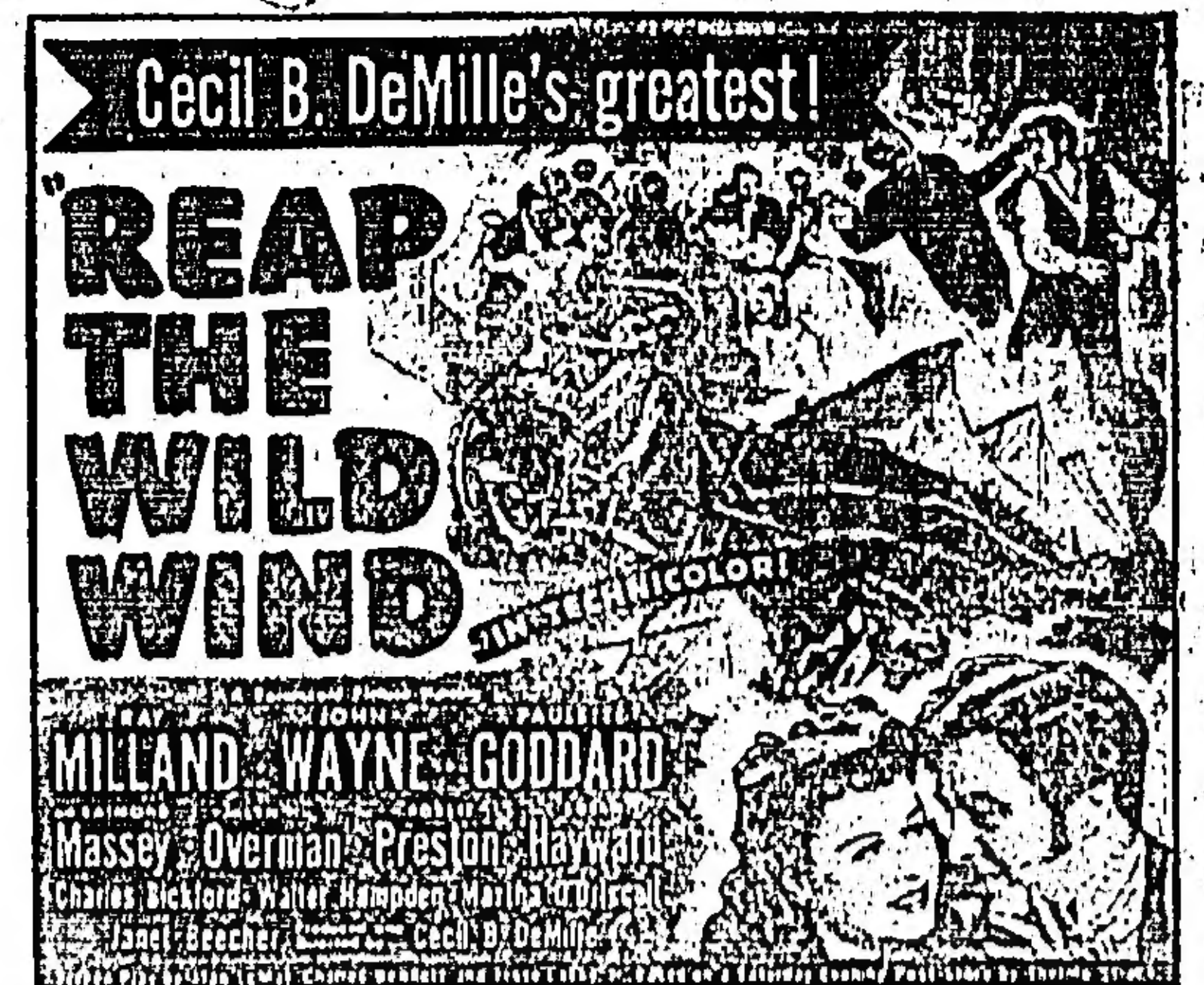


"While Rupert and the conjuror watch, Ninky suddenly bounces twice and the cat, who is already nervous, leaps away in a flash. 'That proves it,' cries the conjuror. 'There must be magic in the donkey, but it is a good magic. It works once and doesn't work for word of command.' All at once a new voice is heard and Ninky's smiling face appears in Germany. Rupert, she says, 'Your mummy smelt donkey and you bring him to show me, yes? You no expect him to jump, no? Me play trick! He-he!'"

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SHOWING TO-DAY **KINGS** AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

A THOUSAND THRILLS THE SCREEN HAS NEVER SEEN BEFORE!



ADDED: Special British Paramount News!

SHOWING TO-DAY **QUEEN'S** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

FOR THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE AND THE LAUGH OF ALL TIME SEE DANNY KAYE IN



NEXT CHANGE THE NEW DICK POWELL IN A NEW TERRIFIC ADVENTURE... "CORNERED" with Walter SLEZAK, Micheline CHEIREL

CENTRAL THEATRE

.5 SHOWS DAILY.

At 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

BY POPULAR DEMAND! TO-DAY ONLY



TO-MORROW

"THE MASTER RACE"

SHOWING TO-DAY **GATHAY** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

M-G-M's WONDERFUL, TUNEFUL, WILD-WEST MUSICAL!

Judy GARLAND in THE HARVEY GIRLS

in TECHNICOLOR With John HODIAK • Ray BOLGER

ANOTHER PAPER CONVERTED

London, Mar. 2. After 103 years, the London Morning Advertiser has decided to print news on its front page.

The decision of the Advertiser, organ of the Society of Licensed Victuallers, leaves the staid Times the only London newspaper running only advertisements on its page one with all the news inside.

The Advertiser was founded in 1794.—Associated Press.

Russians Make Mystery Of Venue Of Big Conference

THEY WERE BROTHERS AFTER ALL

Rome, Mar. 2. Dispatches from Turin reported today that two sisters, Lina and Luigia Chabert, 30 and 38 years old respectively, had been transformed from women into men by surgical operations. The responsible newspaper, *Il Messaggero*, said that although both had been legally registered as females, their bodily characteristics became "unmistakably masculine, despite long and abundant tresses".

Il Messaggero said the surgical operation, which occurred some time ago, required only one hour. It also said the two erstwhile sisters, now brothers, had both become engaged to two girls, "who had not escaped their affectionate attention" even during their supposed membership in the opposite sex.

Il Tempo said: "Actually, the two sisters had little in common with the fair sex. Besides over-developed hands and large, square shoulders, the two girls had very long tresses but shaved their beards regularly. In addition, mutual sympathy and affection between the sisters and the most beautiful girls of the neighbourhood caused much talk. It was this talk which motivated the father of the Chabert girls to consent to the operation, which made him the father of two strong sons."—United Press.

FRENCH DOCTORS WANT CARS

Paris, Mar. 2. French doctors staged protest demonstrations in a number of towns throughout France yesterday and today, demanding a larger quota of cars for professional use. They have threatened to strike if their needs are not met.

Since June, 1945, only 715 cars have been distributed to 35,000 doctors in France. Seven thousand doctors in the Paris region have received only 63 cars since liberation. This is the second time in less than six months that French doctors have voiced their discontent at the insufficiency of cars.—Reuter.

Eight Arrested In Rome Black Market Swoop

Rome, Mar. 2. The police today arrested eight persons, including Mussolini's Minister of Communications, in a crackdown on the black market in Czech sugar imports which were allegedly described as the Cuban Government's gift to the Italian Communist Party.

The police said the former Minister, Nino Host-Venturi, and seven others profited for weeks on 4,800 tons of sugar which they said the Cuban Government had exported to aid pastry industry workers in Italy.

Rocket Weapon Testing Range

Washington, Mar. 2. A testing range for rocket weapons and jet propelled missiles will be opened this month by the Naval Ordnance Department at Holly Ridge, North Carolina, on the abandoned site of a wartime camp, the Navy Department announced today.

The range is being built by Keller Corporation, which will operate it with the guidance of the John Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory.

A 22-mile over-water firing range will be used to study population units such as supersonic ram jet engines and aerodynamic features of new weapons.

The Army and Navy are still seeking over-water long-range testing areas for rocket weapons of the German V type, which have travelled over 100 miles vertically in New Mexico firing tests.

Horizontal firing tests have been delayed until a suitable firing

Indian Vote In Canada

New Delhi, Mar. 2. It was authoritatively learned today that the Canadian Government had taken steps to modify the present Canadian franchise law to permit vote by literate Indian subjects resident in Canada possessing the knowledge of the European language, English or French.

This action followed representation by the Government of India over disabilities suffered by Indian subjects in Canada, the greatest being disenfranchisement.

It is learned that enfranchisement of literates has caused satisfaction amongst Indian subjects in Canada.—United Press.

Moscow, Mar. 2. Eight days before the opening of the Foreign Ministers' conference in Moscow, the embassies of the participating powers had not been informed to-day where it is to take place.

There is considerable evidence pointing to the use of the former Flyers' Club, two and a half miles from the heart of the city which, in pre-revolutionary times, was a restaurant for Tsarist aristocracy.

Crews of carpenters and painters have been busy there clearing and refurbishing since February 16. If the club proves to be the place chosen, it will add a touch of historic colour.

In the days of the Romanoffs, it was known as the "Yar" Restaurant and it was mentioned frequently in Russian classics describing the life of aristocracy. It stands near Dynamo Stadium, at the start of the Leningrad highway. The four-story building, some 80 or 100 years old, still has a restaurant, which, it is believed, would be an important factor in its choice since it would enable the negotiators to have meals on the spot.

Only a thin trickle of advance clerical staff, such as typists, had reached Moscow. Correspondents already here are being inundated with cables from colleagues who have reached Stockholm, Berlin and Paris, asking for assistance in speeding up visas. There is no indication when the bureau will be let down, but the general opinion is that it will not be until zero hour.

The Moscow hotels are undergoing housecleaning of cyclope proportions with squads of painters, whitewashers, upholsterers and scrubbing women setting the stage to welcome the overflow of foreign delegations.—Reuter.

Attack On Dulles

Moscow, Mar. 2. A strong attack on Mr. John Foster Dulles, the Republican Party adviser on foreign affairs who will accompany General George Marshall, U.S. Secretary of State, to Moscow for the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers next week, appeared in this week-end in the Moscow magazine "New Times".

The article was largely devoted to the alleged activities of J. Henry Schroder Banking Corporation, of which Mr. Dulles' brother, Allen Welsh Dulles, is the director.

The writer asserted that John Dulles was connected with the firm through his brother, and that the firm was one of the main links in

African Troops For Indo-China

Paris, Mar. 2. Carrying more than 8,000 African troops and Foreign Legion battalions, the liner "Ile de France" will leave Toulon on Tuesday for Indo-China.

The French ship will also carry units of heavy equipment, field artillery, and tanks.—Reuter.

Fresh Operations

Paris, Mar. 2. French troops at dawn today began a fresh operation in the region west of Hanoi, which French sources this evening reported to be progressing satisfactorily.

The troops are engaged in mopping up Viet Nam pockets of resistance in all important localities in this zone, which includes the town of Ha Dong, 10 kilometres from Hanoi.

It was in Ha Dong that the Viet Nam Premier Dr. Ho Chi Minh, took refuge at the outbreak of the fighting in December.

To-day, for the first time since the struggle began, Mass was celebrated in Hanoi Cathedral.—Reuter.

Sporadic Fighting

Paris, Mar. 2. Sporadic fighting around the Tonkinese cities of Hanoi, Ha Dong and Haiphong, where the French held off small Viet Nam attacks, was reported in dispatches from Hanoi to-day. The most important military operation was the mopping up along a 15-mile front west of Hanoi.

The area of this operation contains the village of Ha Dong, which was the seat of the Viet Nam Government at the break of the Indo-Chinese hostilities on December 19.—United Press.

SEARCH FOR PLANE ABANDONED

Singapore, Mar. 2. The search for the Royal Air Force Dakota missing since Wednesday on a flight from Singapore to Saigon with two high-ranking British officers was abandoned at 11.30 a.m. to-day.

The British cruiser Manxman and aircraft have been searching a wide area where the Dakota may have come down. Yesterday the search parties landed at Tioman Island, off the east coast of Malaya to ask the islanders to join in the search.

The plane was carrying two civilians and ten Service passengers, including Brigadier J. H. Alms, the chief of British Intelligence in Singapore.—Reuter.

International Table Tennis Results

Paris, Mar. 2. The English women's table tennis team, paced by Mrs. Vera Dace, defeated Hungary to-night.

Mrs. Dace and Elizabeth Brackborn defeated their singles opponents easily, then teamed to take the doubles.

In the men's semi-finals for the title, the Czechs defeated Ireland 5-0.—United Press.

Pope Plus Is 71

Vatican City, Mar. 2. Special Masses were celebrated in churches throughout Rome to-day—the Pope's 71st birthday.

Mass in the Vatican was attended by all diplomatic representatives to the Holy See.

The Vatican flag—gold and white—was flown from all Vatican buildings.—Reuter.

INTER-ASIAN TALKS:

PROBLEM OF INDO-CHINA DELEGATES

By DOON CAMPBELL
Reuter's Special Correspondent

Saigon, Mar. 2. It is understood the composition of the Indo-China delegation to the Inter-Asian conference convened by Pandit Nehru in New Delhi on March 23 will be among the subjects discussed by Mr. K.P.S. Menon, India's first Ambassador to China with the French Federal authorities during his 24-hour stay here on his way to Nanking.

An interesting, if not an embarrassing, situation may arise at Delhi as Dr. Ho Chi Minh, the President of the Viet Nam Nationalist Government, has accepted the invitation to send representatives.

It is not yet known how the Viet Nam representatives, who have not yet been named, will reach Delhi, although unofficial quarters believe there is a possibility of air facilities being available from China.

M. Toral, French Commissioner in Indo-China, Mr. Melkire Reid, British Consul-General, Mr. Mehta, Indian Vice-Consul, and more than 100 Indians, waited for a couple of hours at the airport to-day for the arrival of Menon's private plane from Bangkok.

Mr. Menon leaves for Hongkong to-morrow and goes on to Nanking the following day.

A few hours before his arrival 35 Indian men, women and children arrived here from Hanoi—refugees from the Chinese Annamite quarter—on their way to India.

TRUMAN REQUEST TO BRITAIN

(Continued from Page 1)

issue but the precarious situation of the border democracies, Greece, Turkey and Italy, not to forget France and even Britain herself.

American military chiefs see that it is of first importance to American security that Greece should be sustained. This is also true of President Truman and General Marshall. The question is whether Congress and the public will take this historic decision for which there is no American precedent and presented to them without previous preparation.

The news that Britain proposed to reduce her underwriting commitments in Greece came to Washington with stunning suddenness and General Marshall himself was non-plussed. There is prospect that subsequent discussion will be brutally frank and the process of American education in world affairs will be faster in the next month than during the last century.

President Truman and General Marshall under the most solemn circumstances on Thursday laid before select Congressional leaders the necessity of making a crucial decision. That decision is whether the country is prepared to make available money and military strength to block further extension of Soviet influence throughout Europe.

The meeting was described as "ultra secret" which meant that most pertinent facts were published here within twenty-four hours.

Perhaps this was intended. Certainly, the matter was presented without vestige of partisan politics but as a decision which the entire nation must face.—Reuter.

Non-Intervention Policy Stressed By Truman

President Harry Truman today pledged that the United States would "be faithful to the letter and to the spirit" of non-intervention in other nations' affairs, but declared that it "cannot mean indifference."

"Events in one country may have profound effects in other countries," he said. "The community of nations feels concerned at the violation of accepted principles of national behaviour by any one of its members."

Nazis Find Safety In French Zone

London, Mar. 2. Nazis fearing prosecution for their political past are fleeing from the American zone to the French zone of Germany, Albert Bachmann, Chairman of the German Community Party, told the United Press to-day.

He said many former Wehrmacht men had fled into the French zone. Although American denazification was a "comedy," the Nazis felt safer in the French zone.

Economically, Bachmann said, the situation in the American zone was the best until the economic merger with the British zone, when disorganisation developed and the food situation worsened.

Bachmann said the American authorities were wrong in their handling of the re-education of German youth. He said the Americans did not understand that it was a political problem, and tried to eliminate the political element from the re-education programme.

He said the Americans "distrusted the Communists from the outset" and complained that "when choosing Germans for administration of their zone they ignored the Communists completely."—United Press.

Paper For Jap Textbooks

Tokyo, Mar. 3. Japanese newspapers have received commendations from the Chief of Gen. MacArthur's Civil Education and Information Section for their decision to cut down the size of their publications in order to provide paper for the printing of new school books.

Li-Col D. R. Nugent, USMC, said the decision showed a "fine sense of civic responsibility."

Additional savings by the Japanese Paper Allocation Committee would provide 6,000,000 pounds of paper which would be enough for two books each for the 18,500,000 school-children and 400,000 teachers in elementary and secondary schools throughout Japan.

New textbooks are needed for the revised Japanese educational curriculum, but the paper thus provides supplies only a fraction of the amount required.—United Press.

Political Arrests In Hungary

Budapest, Mar. 2. Following the recent arrests of its members, culminating in the arrest last Wednesday by the Soviet authorities in Hungary of its Secretary-General, Bela Novacs, the Hungarian Smallholders' Party (Hungary's largest party) has been negotiating with the Social Democrats and Communists for strengthening of the government coalition.

The Smallholders' Party is demanding settlement of relations between the Church and State, and proposes the abolition of compulsory religious instruction. The Social Democrats propose to reduce the number of ministries from 18 to 12.—Reuter.

Italian Summer Time

Rome, Mar. 2. The official government gazette announced to-day that Italy would advance her clocks one hour on March 10 to double summer time, or two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time.—United Press.

NEW ANGLICAN CHURCH LAWS COMPLETED

London, Mar. 2. The Archbishop of York, Dr. C. F. Garbett, announced to-day completion of preliminary work on the first new code of Anglican Church law in nearly three and a half centuries.

"The first step in a long and tedious journey," Dr. Garbett wrote in the March York Diocesan Leaflet, was completed recently by a commission appointed in 1939 to revise or in force since 1603 and now in many cases obsolete.

"The new draft code of regulations affecting both clergy and laity will be published in the spring, and will then become a practical problem." The Archbishop said that no details would be disclosed until publication of the proposed new canons.—Associated Press.

Catholic Liturgy Change

Vatican City, Mar. 2. The Congregation of the Sacred Rites to-day announced modifications in the liturgy of the Catholic Church in accordance with the end of the monarchy in Italy.

Article XII of the Lateran Treaty prescribed the officiating priest after mass to chant "Prayer for the prosperity of the King of Italy and of the Italian State."

The new decree changes the beginning of the first prayer to "God save the Republic and its President."

The final prayer is completely altered and now reads: "We beseech Thee, O Lord, to safeguard Thy people with unfailing mercy and to enlighten its rulers with the light of Thy wisdom so that they may perceive what is to be done and regain strength to accomplish it."—United Press.

NAMED NUNCIO TO VIENNA

Vatican City, Mar. 2. Monsignor Maurizio Silvani, former Nuncio to Chile, has been named Nuncio to Vienna. It was announced to-day. He will take up his duties shortly after Easter.

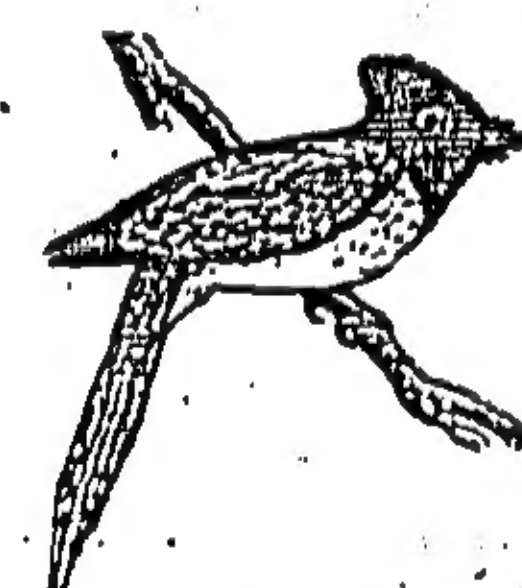
Monsignor Silvani also served at one time as Nuncio in the Republic of San Domingo.—United Press.

NOTICE

WILL ANYONE who witnessed a motor accident near the junction of Hennessy Road and Ewo Street at approximately 12.45 a.m. on the morning of Saturday, March 1, resulting in the deaths of two people and injuries to two other persons, please communicate with the Manager, S. C. M. Post.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The family of the late Yusuf Rumjahn tender their thanks to their friends and relatives for their condolence and attendance at the funeral.



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Communist-Inspired Demand For German Plebiscite

Berlin, Mar. 2. The Communist-dominated Socialist Unity Party, generally considered as Russia's mouthpiece for Germany, to-day urged the German people to demand a plebiscite which would unite the four occupation zones.

Coming on the eve of the Moscow conference, the Left Wing party's statement is regarded by many close observers of the tangled German situation as: (1) a significant indication of the line the Soviets probably will follow when the Big Four Foreign Ministers meet in Moscow on March 10 to discuss the German peace problem; and (2) a thinly veiled Russian slap at the Anglo-American economic zone fusion.

In its official party organ, the Socialist Unity Party also urged the

German people to support immediately the formation of a central administration for all Germany and, as soon as possible, the establishment of a central German government.

The appeal emphasised the necessity of a united Germany in view of the forthcoming Moscow conference.

The appeal said: "In this hour of immediate national danger all anti-Fascist democratic forces must join together to bring the German people out of the national catastrophe."

Qualified American observers interpret the appeal as another Soviet attempt to win German favour and place the Western powers on the defensive before the Foreign Ministers' conference.

Events of the past few weeks, these observers believe, clearly emphasize reported Russian propaganda efforts to stress a so-called

united Germany while making little or no mention of probable Soviet demands at Moscow for huge German reparations and retention of the Polish-German border along the present Oder-Neisse line.

The Russians previously had demanded \$10,000,000,000 worth of reparations from Germany, and the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Molotov, declared in Paris last summer that Russia considered the present western Polish border final.

The Oder-Neisse line, which gives nearly 25 per cent of prewar Germany, and to Poland, was established at the 1945 Potsdam conference as an "administrative frontier." In his Stuttgart speech last September, the former American Secretary of State, Mr. James Byrnes, said the United States did not consider the border question settled.—United Press.



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Russian & Caucasian Specialities